

**The Times-Dispatch**

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1914.

**DREAMS THAT WON'T COME TRUE.**

Ever since seeing the disastrous results of the inability of the Republican party to settle its differences with a split in the ranks, Republicans and Progressives, the innocuous halves of a once mighty whole, have been hoping and praying for an exhibition of mismanagement and folly on the part of the Democrats equal to their own. Next to a real life-sized panic, Democratic discord ending in a row of the proportions of that between Roosevelt and Taft has been the dream of both Republicans and Progressives. Every little sign of a lack of harmony has been seized upon and worked to a frazzle. When there were no signs there was no lack of material with which to manufacture them. Hope is a great weaver of dreams, and has been the father of many a beautiful prophecy. From the first the greatest subconscious thought of these Republican and Progressive dreamers has been the fond belief that the Democrats were as much without honor and without signs upon which to base predictions as the prophets of panic. The business crash and the split in the Democratic party seemed equally distant in the future. Then came a speech by Speaker Champ Clark at Baltimore, in which the speaker aired too freely his own grievances, under the guise of giving an inside story of what occurred at the Democratic convention of nearly two years ago. This speech has been seized upon eagerly by the despairing Republicans and Progressives, and again we have the enthusiastic predictions of a great Democratic split before the next presidential election. The vendetta between Bryan and Clark, the Baltimore American calls it, and gleefully exclaims that it is but another evidence "of the inability of Democrats to bury their grievances and to fight the common enemy instead of battling among themselves." This, coming from the staunch supporter of the party which is even now in mortal agony as the result of self-inflicted wounds, is amusing. Evidently the American was itself struck with the inconsistency, for it attempts to explain that the "schism" in the Republican ranks was "ephemeral."

The beautiful dream of the American seems to rest on the contradictory thoughts that the Democratic party is in power because it stood intact in the face of Republican division, but will go out of power because Democrats are unable to keep together in face of Republican harmony. The Democrats are in power. That must be explained. They do it by saying that it is because the Republicans divided and the Democrats did not. The Republicans must return. The answer comes: they will return, because Democrats are unable to unite, and the Republicans always unite. However, as dreams are never logical, there is no fault to be found with the beautiful visions seen by the leaders of the two wings of the Republican party. The trouble comes when they attempt to fool themselves and others into believing that the dream is a reality.

**CONGRESSIONAL ECONOMY.**

Never was the necessity for stringent economy in the expenditure of national public funds more apparent than at this time. One of the traditional principles of the Democratic party is economy, and because of this fact the party is now on trial because it is in the saddle. It must fulfill its pledge. It must not follow the policy of the Republicans. It must show substantial improvement.

It is gratifying that House leaders assert that they intend for the creation of an efficient national budget system, which was defeated by a small majority in the recent session, will be renewed. The leaders favor a plan of "rationalizing" estimates and expenditures, and reducing the President, but the rank and file of the party seem less zealous to the proposed reform.

A budget system must come, if the nation's finances are to be successfully administered. Congressman Sherry, who drafted the plan which the special session defeated, Chairman Underwood and most of the prominent majority members of the House support such a method of solution. If informed public opinion will insist upon a budget, it will be established.

The Times-Dispatch has for long insisted that fixed system is just as essential to the proper transaction of the public business as it is to the operation of private business. We need budgetary control of our national expenditures, and we shall defer creating it to our heavy loss.

The ground hog discredited the very first shot out of the box.

Married men, says the police report for Denver, are the more orderly of the population. Naturally, when each has a special policeman assigned to keep watch over him.

For marching up the hill and then marching down again, the suffragettes have the King of France whipped to a frazzle.

Congressman Johnson cannot claim that that Kentucky bill prohibiting gun-toting is aimed at him.

**A PURE OR CORRUPT ELECTION—THE HOUSE MUST SAY.**

The action of the State Senate yesterday in adopting the Fletcher amendment, fixing the qualifications of voters in the prohibition election proposed to be held next September, removes a menace to Virginia's good name and Virginia's freedom from corruption.

It provides an electorate composed of men who have had the patriotism to pay their poll taxes and qualify themselves for the ballot at a time when there was no special inducement for them to do so. It eliminates those who pay their poll taxes and qualify for voting only when they are selfishly interested in the pending election or when some wrongful inducement is held out to them.

It insures a normal, rather than an abnormal, electorate—one presumably honest, rather than one composed in large part of those who have been added to the list by the exercise of pressure or the promise of gain.

The amendment now goes to the House of Delegates for concurrence. The Fletcher amendment is similar in principle and almost in language to that introduced in the Senate Wednesday by Senator Tamm and defeated by a narrow margin. It provides that all who were qualified to vote in the elections of last November may vote in the proposed election to be held under the enabling act. It admits to the electorate also those who have qualified to vote in the coming spring elections and those who may register by reason of becoming of lawful age prior to the date fixed for the holding of the proposed election.

These provisions seem to us to be fair and just. It admits the vast majority of those who have gone to the polls as good citizens year after year and have voted their convictions. There was no special reward offered to those who have already qualified to vote. They qualified because they have been accustomed to exercise their privileges as citizens of Virginia. They are the consistent voters. There will be a few, a very few, disqualified who are good citizens, and who for some reason not creditable to their good citizenship, did not qualify for the 1913 general elections or for the June elections, but consideration for these few would not justify the defeat of an amendment which disqualified practically all who could be influenced to qualify temporarily for privileges they have heretofore shown themselves unwilling to exercise.

The provision is not only fair and just. It is the strongest safeguard against corruption and debauchery that could be thrown around an election. Not a voter can be added to the qualified list after the enabling act shall have become operative. Thousands whose names now clutter the registration books, but who have not exercised the right of franchise in years, will be barred. In the main, these men are of two classes—those so little interested in the affairs of government as not to take the trouble to pay their poll taxes and those who vote only when induced to do so by influences which, to say the least, do not argue for their honesty. The first class deserves no consideration when the purity of elections is at stake; the second class should be disqualified whenever the opportunity offers, however important or however unimportant the election.

The Fletcher amendment admits to the voting booths very few undesirable, along with a great many desirable. It eliminates very few desirables, along with a vast number of undesirable. The electorate is made as near perfect as possible, with as little injustice as possible.

Virginia has fought long and sacrificed much to purify our electorate. We have been forced in self-protection to write into our organic law electoral qualifications which require every voter to spend time and pay taxes before he can cast a ballot. In so doing, we have stricken from our books some good men, but we have rid ourselves of that undesirable vote which made vote-stealing and dishonest elections sometimes almost excusable, if not justified.

Are we now to return to those conditions? Are we to have three months during which the State can be scoured for voters and thousands added who have not by habitual regard for their duty as citizens, merited a vote in this important election? Is Virginia to let down the bars?

The Senate has said no, emphatically and by an overwhelming vote. We appeal to the House of Delegates to make the same answer, and to make it just as emphatically.

**THE UNIVERSITY'S VALUE.**

A little pamphlet entitled "Some Facts About the University of Virginia," recently issued, clears up some misunderstandings regarding the amount appropriated by the State to the university, and gives some interesting information as to the work it is doing. An attempt to measure in dollars and cents the benefits to Virginia performed by the university results in some interesting reading, and publishes some facts which have not heretofore received any great amount of attention.

The actual cost of training given to the 474 students from Virginia is estimated at \$148,562, and the amount paid for these students is reported as being \$25,935. The State, therefore, receives from the university \$122,627. About 500 students from other States attend the university and spend more than \$300,000 in Virginia. The pamphlet estimates at \$350,000 the amount her own students would have to spend were they compelled to seek their education elsewhere, and counts this as a saving to the State.

The value in dollars and cents, however, is the least the State receives from the University of Virginia. As the pamphlet says, it is absurd to reduce to figures the true benefit to the State. It is moral, intellectual and spiritual, rather than fiscal.

Those who read this pamphlet cannot help being impressed more than ever with the great work of the University of Virginia and the vast amount of good it has wrought. The university deserves of the people of the State the warmest support, and from the General Assembly should receive in appropriations all that can possibly be spared to that purpose.

**The Rappahannock Rhapsodist**

**The New Member.**  
He reaches town with high-blown pride.  
For in his heart he's satisfied  
He'll introduce a dozen bills  
And do away all human ills.  
He has a certain air about him  
Just like the other Rappahannock.  
To settle State-wide prohibition  
The tax laws he will regulate.  
He'll set the next year's system straight.  
He's told his people what he'll do.  
They don't fear he'll do it in Rome.  
Just like the other Rappahannock.  
He promised he'll be something new.  
These are his high resolves. Alas!  
They're not the things that come to pass;  
Some nine and ninety men he finds  
Of just as many different minds.  
His words oblige 'em! 'twill more's the pity!  
Find dark oblivion in committee.  
Is that one on the list who makes  
Is that one on the list who makes  
And when he makes his great oration  
He thought would stir the very nation,  
It falls on deaf ears, and he's  
Or meets with laughter, hoots and jeers.

**Queries and Answers**

**Catarians.**  
You inform me who is writing the Catarian matter now appearing in one of the Richmond papers?  
The Rev. S. C. Weatherly.

**Public Schools.**  
Is there a new course in piano or violin at the Richmond High School in the night classes?  
No.

**Rather Many.**  
What year was the Richmond Dispatch started? When was the Alexandria Gazette begun? When did Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe die? When was a Governor of New York named Morgan, and when did he serve?  
(1) 1851. (2) 1851. (3) Hugh R. Pleasants. (4) 1851. (5) 1851. (6) Edwin Dennis. (7) 1851. (8) Edwin Dennis. (9) 1851. (10) Edwin Dennis.

**Uncertain.**  
For a diamond A offers B \$200 cash and \$125 in thirty and in sixty days. What does this mean? Two sums of \$125 each or a sum of \$125?  
The statement is too indefinite for any one to construe it.

**Enabling Act.**  
Is it true that the House of Delegates, after passing the enabling act, recommended to the Senate not to pass it?  
No.

**Grafting War.**  
The season invites all minds except congressional ones to the matter of grafting. I should like to get a good formula for making grafting.  
A. H. LANE.

**For the string used in tying the wax formula is five pounds of rosin, one-half pound of beeswax and one-half pound of turpentine.**

**Importation of Liquor.**  
If the enabling act is passed and Virginia goes "dry" may liquor be brought into this State from well territory?  
SUSAN R.

**The Webb act provides that liquor may not be shipped in for sale. It makes no attempt to prevent the importation for the personal use of the buyer.**

**Benefit of Clergy.**  
A recent address here the speaker referred to the English privilege of "benefit of clergy" as 200 years old. I am unable to find any statement of dates in regard to it, and I have to ask you whence it came about and when and the date of its creation.

**The origin is not exactly known. It seems to be in the words of the Psalmist (ev. 13). "Touch not the anointed and do not my prophets to harm." It was extended to laymen and places dedicated to the service of the church. The places were exempted from arrest, and hence, laymen and places dedicated to the service of the church were exempted from processes in the criminal courts. In the third year of Edward I. (1274) the privilege was extended to all laymen who could read—those who could read the words of the Bible. A man could successfully evade the law by reading an assigned verse of Scripture. This "benefit of clergy" was usually branding in the left hand, but later it was extended to women. In 1350 it was ordained that no man should plead his clergy a second time, and the plea was never accepted in charges of high treason. By the seventh of George IV. (1827) the benefit of clergy was abolished.**

**WHAT WAS NEWS FIFTY YEARS AGO**

Reprinted from This Newspaper.

**Good News From North Carolina.**  
Below is an official report that comes from General Pickett's Kingston, N. C., February 3.

To General S. Cooper, Richmond, Va.  
I made a reconnaissance within a mile of Newbern, with Hoke's Brigade and parts of Cox's and Cigman's, and some artillery; met the enemy in force at Bachelor's Creek; killed and wounded about 100 men; all captured thirteen officers and 2,800 other prisoners, fourteen negroes, two rifled pieces and caissons, 300 stores of small arms, five ambulances, three wagons, fifty-five animals, a quantity of clothing, camp and garrison equipage and two flags.

Commander Wood, Confederate States Navy, captured and destroyed the United States gunboat Underwriter. Our loss was thirty-five killed and wounded.

(Signed) G. E. PICKETT,  
Major-General Commanding.

**Death of Major Burroughs.**  
Major Edgar Burroughs, late of the Princess Anne Rangers, and actively engaged in the Confederate service, was killed in Norfolk last week. Major Burroughs was arrested at a late hour of the night at his residence in Princess Anne County, and carried to Norfolk where he was confined in a military commission, ordered by Ben Butler, and sentenced to death. Before the sentence could be executed he was seized with the smallpox and removed to a hospital in Portsmouth. While rapidly convalescing, he died of the disease, and was shot by one of the negro guards on the morning of the 2nd inst. He survived only twenty-four hours. Major Burroughs was a minister of the gospel during the war, and was as noble, gallant and patriotic a man as Virginia has produced.

**Legal Decision on Substitute Case.**  
The first decision under the law of Congress concerning the principal who had hired substitutes, was made by Judge French at Lumberton, N. C., on Friday last. The case was brought by a man named Moore, who was a member of the 2nd North Carolina Regiment, and was ordered by the military commission, ordered by Ben Butler, and sentenced to death. Before the sentence could be executed he was seized with the smallpox and removed to a hospital in Portsmouth. While rapidly convalescing, he died of the disease, and was shot by one of the negro guards on the morning of the 2nd inst. He survived only twenty-four hours. Major Burroughs was a minister of the gospel during the war, and was as noble, gallant and patriotic a man as Virginia has produced.

**Not Volunteering Rapidly.**  
Out of an entire number (about 300) of substituted men in Lynchburg only eighteen have volunteered, the rest, like the others, preferring to wait in the hope that something will "turn up" to keep them out of the army.

**Colonel Shaw Killed.**  
In the early part of General Pickett's engagement with the enemy near Newbern, reported in another column, Col. Henry N. Shaw, of the 8th North Carolina, was shot through the head and killed by the enemy's pickets.

**Whipped Them Again.**  
Under date February 4, General W. H. C. Whiting, major-general, officially reports from Wilmington, N. C., as follows: "On the 24th inst. General Whiting, with the Seventeenth and Forty-second North Carolina Regiments, and Col. Jackson's command from Kenansville, broke the railroad at Shephersville, driving the enemy from their camp near Newbern, and across Newport River."

**The Affair in Hardy County.**  
Pursued from the front at Williamsport, Hardy County, on Saturday last, show that it was chiefly with a view to the capture of the enemy's General Rosser's Brigade. Our loss in killed and wounded was not over forty. While the fight was in progress, General Rosser's Brigade, consisting of eight companies and 107 wagons heavily loaded with commissary supplies. With eighty of these wagons were very much damaged, and have been safely brought through to Harrisburg.

**Victory at Stephens.**  
Vice-President Alexander H. Stephens is now at his residence in Crawfordsville, Ind., and is recovering from his late illness as to be able to walk about and resume to some extent, correspondence.

**Sent to Salisbury.**  
Henry Richardson, and Thomas Brown, two of the four who were captured by the New York Herald, who have been confined in Castle Thun, Switzerland, were transferred from this post to the Confederate prison at Salisbury.

**Another Steamer Gone.**  
The steamship Wild Dayrell, from Nassau for Wilmington, went ashore Monday morning last near Topsail Beach, about twelve miles from Wilmington, while trying to run the blockade. She was seen by the United States gunboat, and was captured by the Wild Dayrell's cargo. The crew must have been very much surprised. The crew made their escape.

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**Re-Enlistment.**  
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To General S. Cooper, Richmond, Va.  
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Commander Wood, Confederate States Navy, captured and destroyed the United States gunboat Underwriter. Our loss was thirty-five killed and wounded.

(Signed) G. E. PICKETT,  
Major-General Commanding.

**Death of Major Burroughs.**  
Major Edgar Burroughs, late of the Princess Anne Rangers, and actively engaged in the Confederate service, was killed in Norfolk last week. Major Burroughs was arrested at a late hour of the night at his residence in Princess Anne County, and carried to Norfolk where he was confined in a military commission, ordered by Ben Butler, and sentenced to death. Before the sentence could be executed he was seized with the smallpox and removed to a hospital in Portsmouth. While rapidly convalescing, he died of the disease, and was shot by one of the negro guards on the morning of the 2nd inst. He survived only twenty-four hours. Major Burroughs was a minister of the gospel during the war, and was as noble, gallant and patriotic a man as Virginia has produced.

**Legal Decision on Substitute Case.**  
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Out of an entire number (about 300) of substituted men in Lynchburg only eighteen have volunteered, the rest, like the others, preferring to wait in the hope that something will "turn up" to keep them out of the army.

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**Whipped Them Again.**  
Under date February 4, General W. H. C. Whiting, major-general, officially reports from Wilmington, N. C., as follows: "On the 24th inst. General Whiting, with the Seventeenth and Forty-second North Carolina Regiments, and Col. Jackson's command from Kenansville, broke the railroad at Shephersville, driving the enemy from their camp near Newbern, and across Newport River."

**The Affair in Hardy County.**  
Pursued from the front at Williamsport, Hardy County, on Saturday last, show that it was chiefly with a view to the capture of the enemy's General Rosser's Brigade. Our loss in killed and wounded was not over forty. While the fight was in progress, General Rosser's Brigade, consisting of eight companies and 107 wagons heavily loaded with commissary supplies. With eighty of these wagons were very much damaged, and have been safely brought through to Harrisburg.

**Victory at Stephens.**  
Vice-President Alexander H. Stephens is now at his residence in Crawfordsville, Ind., and is recovering from his late illness as to be able to walk about and resume to some extent, correspondence.

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